January 25, 2019

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Makan Delrahim
Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Dear Chairman Pai and Assistant Attorney General Delrahim,

We’re writing to express our support for, and encourage your prompt consideration of, the proposed merger of T-Mobile U.S., Inc. and Sprint Corporation. We believe this merger will foster greater competition and consumer choice in the wireless market, preserve jobs, and help ensure the U.S. remains a world leader in next-generation wireless broadband technology.

The proposed merger of T-Mobile and Sprint will allow the third and fourth largest wireless carriers in the U.S. to combine their spectrum resources to deliver a more robust wireless broadband network for consumers, drive innovation and investment, and better compete with the top two wireless providers. We believe the new company will be better positioned to deploy a nationwide 5G network and invest in a next-generation wireless broadband network to reach underserved communities and help close the digital divide.

As your agencies consider the state of competition, we urge you to recognize that the U.S. telecommunications market has changed dramatically in recent years. Intermodal competition has become a new reality as companies in the cable, satellite, wireline, and wireless industries now compete fiercely for broadband consumers. Additionally, companies in this space are reliant upon a limited amount of available spectrum. We therefore ask that you carefully examine all dimensions of competition in this market, including investment, innovation, spectrum resources, the evolving nature of the wireless industry, and the prospect of expanded broadband deployment.

We anticipate that the combination of T-Mobile and Sprint, complete with the respective resources and strengths of each, will help to preserve the jobs of workers at each company. This holds the potential new demand for workers as a result of a more broadly robust, innovative, and thriving wireless telecommunications sector.
We believe the proposed merger between T-Mobile and Sprint will transform the wireless industry, drive innovation, help close the digital divide and provide consumers with more choices at lower costs. Accordingly, we hope that the Commission and Department will give its full and fair consideration to this merger.

Sincerely,

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

Billy Long
Member of Congress

Adam Smith
Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress

Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress

Roger W. Marshall, M.D.
Member of Congress

Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress

Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress

Anthony G. Browner
Member of Congress

Ron Estes
Member of Congress
Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress

Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress

cc: Commissioner Michael O’Rielly  
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel  
Commissioner Brendan Carr  
Commissioner Geoffrey Starks